GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Regional Connectivity Fund
S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has created a Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) to promote regional air connectivity in the country;

(b) if so, the total funds collected from each of the airlines, till date;

(c) whether the private airlines have not been paying their share in RCF;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Government has directed the private airlines to start contributing to the corpus that would fund the regional connectivity scheme and if so, the response of the airlines thereto and the steps taken/being taken by the Government not to impose additional burden on air passengers on account of RCF?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 140, regarding "Regional Connectivity Fund" to be answered on 09.03.2017.; ; (a) to (d): Yes Madam, As per Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN, scheduled airlines are required to pay Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) levy on certain flights operated within India to fund RCF. Till date an amount of Rs. 1,15,42,000/- has been received. The Federation of Indian Airlines have filed a court case on this issue and the matter is sub-judice. ;

(e): Ministry of Civil Aviation, vide order dated 9th November, 2016, has decided to impose a levy on scheduled flights operated within India to fund Regional Air Connectivity Fund (RCF), in the following manner: i) Rs. 7,500 with stage length upto 1,000 km. ii) Rs. 8,000 with stage length more than 1,000 km to 1,500 km and iii) Rs. 8,500 with stage length above 1,500 km. However, following flights shall be exempted from the said levy: i) Flights operated on CAT II/ CAT IIA routes as specified in Route Dispersal Guidelines issued under Rule 134 (1A). ii) Flights operated on RCS routes. iii) Flights operated with aircraft having maximum certified take off mass not exceeding 40,000 kg.